

## **Public Involvement Plan Proposed Scope of Work -- FY 2002**

**May 3, 2001**

**Project No.: PIP 12G**

**Lead Agencies:** Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Project WILD Program, in cooperation with the USFWS Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program

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**Title of Proposal:** Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River - Then and Now: An Advanced Project WILD Workshop

**Briefly describe the strategies planned to achieve public involvement goals as they relate to this project. The goals are defined in the Recovery Program's Communications/Public Involvement Plan. Include budget and dates where applicable. (Please limit narrative to one to two pages.)**

### **Strategies/Dates:**

In FY 2001, the Recovery Program approved a Scope of Work for the Utah Division of Wildlife's Project WILD Program to host an Advanced Project WILD educator workshop featuring the Endangered Fish of the Upper Colorado River. The target audience would be Utah educators. Project WILD focuses on training educators recognizing the potential of outreach efforts being multiplied by a great factor as educators pass on their experiences and knowledge gained to the youth/students they teach from year to year.

Originally, the training was scheduled to occur in August or September 2001. During the planning process, it became apparent that this time of the year is not the best to ensure teachers' attendance. UDWR came back to the I&E Committee in March 2001, requesting that this SOW be postponed until June 2002. This timeframe will enable UDWR to partner with the Soil Conservation RD&C in Vernal which hosts an annual week-long training for educators on various conservation topics. The Soil Conservation's Program is called PAWS (Plants, Animals, Water and Soil.) Under this SOW, Projects WILD and PAWS will partner for the June 2002 educator training and make the focus the Endangered Fish of the Colorado River.

All components of the training approved in the FY 2001 proposal will still be part of the training, including tours of Flaming Gorge Dam and the Ouray National Fish Hatchery hatchery tour, and a float trip. Discussions addressing changes in the ecosystem related to exotic species such as tamarisk, water quality and land issues could all be incorporated in a more integrated fashion. An additional component, not presented at the time of the proposal, but not to included in the plan is a quarry tour at Dinosaur National Monument. David Whitman will host the tour, presenting information on the native fish geological history represented within the monument.

We plan to start by touring the Flaming Gorge Dam near Dutch John. Tour guides will be asked to focus

on changes resulting from the dam and impacts to the ecosystem and endangered fish populations. Afterwards, time will be spent hiking along the river toward the Little Hole area. This component of the workshop will provide educators a post-dam scenario with which to compare a pre-dam setting later during the workshop. We plan to camp at Dinosaur National Monument that evening.

A float experience from Split Mountain to Red Wash to explore the pre-dam habitat of the endangered fish (mainly Colorado pikeminnow habitat and razorback sucker spawning areas) is planned for the second day. Activities will potentially include seigning for young fish, electro-shocking and discussion of issues surrounding endangered fish recovery. UDWR biologists will act as guides, as well as lead the days' activities and present biological information. Other expertise and information will hopefully be provided by USFWS personnel involved with the recovery program. Afterwards we will shuttle back to Dinosaur National Monument.

On the morning of the third day, a visit to the Ouray National Fish Hatchery is planned. USFWS biologists will share their role in the recovery effort. A major component of the workshop will be a discussion of how information and skills gained at this workshop can be shared with the youth/students with which the participants work. Potential educational activities will be shared and applicable supplemental educational materials such as the "Rivers at Risk" curriculum, the endangered fish posters and the "Swimming Upstream" video will be distributed. Those who intend to take the workshop for credit will be asked to follow through with an education plan for their students and write up the results of their efforts.

Project WILD believes providing hands-on educational field experiences to educators is one of the most highly effective means of outreach to enhance understanding of wildlife, address wildlife conservation issues, and promote public support and involvement.

#### **Budget:**

<b>Camping</b>		<b>Fee Waived by Dinosaur National Monument - Educational Program</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>20 participants + presenters</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Supplemental Educational Materials for Participants</b>		<b>\$300</b>
<b>Equipment Rental (life vests, few other minor items)</b>		<b>\$200</b>
<b>Boat Supplies (gas, towing needs)</b>		<b>\$50</b>
<b>Personnel (6 person-days for shuttle, boat guides, presenting)</b>		<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Motor Pool Vehicle Rental (2-15 passenger vans, 1-cargo van)</b>		<b>\$ 550</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,600</b>
		<b>(Annual Funds)</b>
		<b>Provided FY 2001</b>
		<b>No funds requested</b>
		<b>in FY 2002</b>